

## TOWN OF ARLINGTON



### Cemetery Commission Minutes

Date: February 12, 2020  
Time: 9:00am  
Location: Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Chapel

Attendance: Commissioners Michele Hassler, Bill McCarthy and Brian Hasbrouck, DPW Director, Mike Rademacher, Treasurer, Phyllis Marshall

#### Minutes

1. Minutes approved for January 08, 2020
2. Signed Deeds (4)
3. Phyllis addressed the Commission regarding the trust funds that are listed under the cemetery. Phyllis gave out a spreadsheet that included the funds and principal amount. Phyllis will do a spreadsheet with descriptions of the funds. There is a meeting of the Board of Trust Funds on February 25, 2020.
  - i. Questions asked; is there a minimum that should be left in perpetual care fund to maintain the cemetery when there are no more graves to sell?
  - ii. Can perpetual care be used for Old Burying Ground or just for Mt. Pleasant Cemetery?
  - iii. Can a fund be used for anything other than its original use?
  - iv. If we use funds, how does it get dispersed? Phyllis will look at the trusts and consult with Town Council.
4. Brooks Harrelson, Diversity Task Group, interrupted the meeting at 9:05am to ask about the placement of a slave marker in the Old Burying Ground.
5. The topic of potential grave sites in the OBG for slaves from the colonial period was discussed in the CPA presentation for the OBG wall project, and there is momentum in town to have them recognized. Further information is currently being gathered.
6. Discussion was had about the goals for 2020 that were included in the January minutes. Vote was called to approve the inclusion of the goals; Michele and Bill voted yes and Brian abstained.
7. Mike said that engineering department has come out to look at a turnaround by the Bowes building that will allow the cemetery to block off illegal parking by the Bowes building which has been an ongoing problem.

8. Mike informed the commissioners that DPW is looking for new space to accommodate staff while a new DPW building is being built.
9. Dumpster; JRM did a site visit to see about a covered dumpster that could be locked. Commission voted yes to installing cameras and proper signage to deter illegal use of the dumpster.
10. CPA update; George Parsons and Jim Feeney presented historical master plan which includes MPC. There was a discussion about using GPR to locate graves of slaves. Project would need to be approved for GPR. Joanne Preston is writing an article on the slaves buried at OBG. Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Jim Feeney, Michele Hassler, Mike Rademacher and Dan Warren did a site visit to MPC to review the different options of restoring/renovating the tomb doors.
11. Jean gave an update on the X-6 marker. She has not heard from the family regarding a replacement. Michele discussed the Hazeltine/Lake marker that was broken up and illegally dumped over the fence to Meadowbrook Park, which is located within the cemetery. The supervisor picked up 9 pieces and moved to the cemetery gravel pile. Not all the pieces were found.
12. Michele talked about the need for a turnaround. She spoke to someone parked in the cemetery and told him it was not allowed. She found lots of debris behind the columbarium that she picked up and put in the trash. When she talked to the contractors at the Bowes building they stated that it flies out of the dumpster. Construction work is almost done and Mr. Bowes responded to her email about this issue.
13. I-440 requested an additional foot marker. It was denied. The family may replace the existing foot marker to include another name.
14. W-178B correspondence was received and burials shall remain as is.
15. Michele talked about the tour she took at The Children's Room and brought some brochures back to be displayed. Bill will look into a brochure display stand.
16. Decoration cleanup complaints were discussed.
17. Monthly numbers were given.

Meeting adjourned 10:30 am  
Next meeting will be March 11, 2020

Respectfully submitted  
Jean Smith

Board of Cemetery Commissioners  
Michele A. Hassler, Chairperson  
William F. McCarthy  
Brian L. Hasbrouck